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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 18 March 1949

SUBJECT Shortages of Critical Items

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. There is a shortage of many items in the Russian Zone, caused by the Western counter-blockade. The following items are considered to be critical shortages:

Ball bearings - used to come from Schweinfurt; small quantities now being imported from Sweden.

Chrome-nickel.

Flues for steam boilers.

Platinum wire.

Electric motors - used to come from Siemens.

Anthracite - used to come from Ruhr; not available in Silesia.

Hard coal and coke - small quantities now coming from Silesia.

Refined steel.

Special sheet metals.

Special machines.

Chemicals, like glycol, glycerin, formic acid, phosphorus.

2. There was a shortage of tires which is now being overcome. During January 1949, a firm in Saxony began obtaining tires for trucks and automobiles from a firm in the British Zone. About one hundred tires arrive every second day by motor ship at Rostock.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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